

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05618 140855Z
ACTION IO-14

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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8370

UNCLAS GENEVA 05618

DEPT PASS TO EDGAR STOCK, US POSTAL SERVICE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, UPU
SUBJ: UPU: REVISED 1978 AND PROPOSED 1979 BUDGETS

1. US IS NOT PRESENTLY A MEMBER OF UPU'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF EXPRESSING OUR VIEWS ON THE REVISED 1978 AND PROPOSED 1979 BUDGETS ARE THROUGH THE GENEVA GROUP MECHANISM. GENEVA GROUP WILL BE MEETING IN BERN ON APRIL 25 OR 27. MISSION TELATT IS US CO-CHAIRMAN AND WILL BE ACTING AS RAPPORTEUR. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, US CO-CHAIRMAN WILL MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

2. ADD-ONS OF SF 89,000 FOR 1978 AND SF 198,000 FOR 1979 ARE PROPOSED TO FINANCE SHORTFALLS OF REIMBURSEMENTS FROM UNDP FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. THE GENEVA GROUP POSITION IS THAT REGULAR BUDGETS SHOULD NOT BE INCREASED FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. IT IS HOPED THAT THE GENEVA GROUP MEMBERS ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN ARGUING THAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE AT A LEVEL TO MAINTAIN PRESENT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ASSESSMENTS PLUS REALISTICALLY ANTICIPATED UNDP REIMBURSEMENTS. IT MAY THUS BE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05618 140855Z

NECESSARY TO MODIFY SOME TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PLANS TO REDUCE EXPENDITURES.

3. THE COST OF THE 1979 CONGRESS IN RIO IS BY FAR THE MAJOR FACTOR IN AN 18 PERCENT INCREASE IN ASSESSMENTS. THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD BE URGED TO SEEK MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE HOST GOVERNMENT PURSUANT TO THE

PRINCIPLE OF HOST COUNTRY RESPONSIBILITY FOR
INCREMENTAL COSTS. WHILE THE CONGRESS IS WITHIN THE
MONETARY LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY THE LAUSANNE CONGRESS IN
1974, THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD NONETHELESS BE STRONGLY
ENCOURAGED TO PRACTICE ALL POSSIBLE ECONOMIES BOTH FOR
THE CONGRESS AND FOR OTHER SECTIONS OF THE BUDGET SO
AS TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACT UPON ASSESSMENTS.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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